



# Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

March 25, 2019

Kevin Schmidt  
Cause of Action

Via Electronic Mail Only

This is in response to your February 12, 2019 request for:

“all e-mails, including attachments, and text messages to or from each of the following employees that include the search terms listed below:

- ☐ Tony Evers, Governor
- ☐ Maggie Gau, Chief of Staff

Search terms:

- ☐ Foxconn
- ☐ Flying Eagle
- ☐ Trump
- ☐ White House
- ☐ Terry Gou
- ☐ Alan Yeung
- ☐ Louis Woo
- ☐ Jim Paetsch
- ☐ Joel Brennan
- ☐ Robin Vos
- ☐ Scott Fitzgerald
- ☐ WEDC
- ☐ Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation
- ☐ Mark Hogan”

Your request included a date range from January 27, 2019 to February 12, 2019.<sup>1</sup>

The personal email addresses and cell phones of employees have been redacted pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.36(11). Pursuant to the common law balancing test, I also redacted unpublished cell and office phone numbers of state employees. Making these unpublished numbers available would cause unnecessary and unwarranted interruptions to employees

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<sup>1</sup> The public records law does not contemplate ongoing requests, and therefore the date of your request served as the end date. 73 Op. Att’y Gen. 37, 44 (1984).

both at work and at home, effecting their ability to work efficiently. There is minimal harm to the public interest given that these same employees are available through publicly available means.

I have also redacted the contact information of a higher-level Foxconn official. The reason for this redaction is that we want to avoid causing unnecessary and unwarranted interruptions that releasing this information may cause. The public interest in this specific information is low given that the public may route communications directly to Foxconn executives through publicly available channels.

I am also withholding any records that are privileged attorney-client communications. *See* Wis. Stat. § 905.03; *Wis. Newspress, Inc. v. Sch. Dist. of Sheboygan Falls*, 199 Wis. 2d 768, 782-83 (1996) (recognizing the attorney-client privilege as an exception to the public records law).

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.35(4)(b), the decision to redact records is subject to review by mandamus under Wis. Stat. § 19.37(1), or upon application to the attorney general or to your local district attorney. However, please know that our office is happy to work with you on tailoring requests in order to ensure you get the records that you are searching for.

Sincerely,

Erin Deeley  
Assistant Legal Counsel  
Office of the Governor